

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The purpose of the Staff College (Voenna Akademiya), in Sofia is to prepare officers for division staffs and, in part, Army staffs. The faculty at the Staff College is composed of the following:

- a. 85-90 permanently attached officers/instructors;
- b. 10-15 civilian lecturers from the State University; and
- c. High-ranking officers who are invited to give lectures.

The student body consists of three classes of 35-70 men.

2. The procedure for admission to the Staff College is as follows:

- a. Applicant must be a senior first lieutenant who has been a first lieutenant for three years;
- b. Applicant must apply to the Ministry of War by letter through his regimental commander; at his discretion, the commander can stop the application or forward it with an endorsement;
- c. Acceptable applicants are informed by mail to prepare for the competitive examination and are given a 2-month leave for this purpose;
- d. The examinations are held at the Staff College two or three months prior to the beginning of the academic year; the examination papers are graded without the identity of the candidate being known to the grader; and

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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- e. The examination covers the following subjects:
- (1) Tactics-theory and infantry problems;
 - (2) Military history;
 - (3) Operational geography;
 - (4) Political orientation;
 - (5) One European language (dictation and translation); and
 - (6) Russian (dictation and translation).
3. Successful candidates are assigned to the Staff College following summer field training and maneuvers; the academic year usually begins in October. From 1945 to 1947, there were not sufficient applicants to fill the quota; therefore, applicants fulfilling Ministry of War requirements were admitted without examination.
4. The course of study at the Staff College is as follows:
- a. First year:
- (1) General Staff Service; this is the basic subject, including theory, map problems, and, during the summer, tactical field problems;
 - (2) Tactics of each branch of the service;
 - (3) Battle Doctrine;
 - (4) Organization of Support;
 - (5) History of Military Thought;
 - (6) Languages: European, Russian, and neighboring countries;
 - (7) Political Economy;
 - (8) Philosophy of Materialism;
 - (9) Dialectic Materialism; and
 - (10) Ordnance.
- b. Second year:
- (1) General Staff Service: tactical map problems of concern to the division staff;
 - (2) Operations Doctrine (Operativno Iskustvo);
 - (3) Mobilization;
 - (4) State Economy;
 - (5) Supply in War and Peace;
 - (6) Languages;
 - (7) Stenography; and
 - (8) Gunnery.

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c. Third year:

- (1) Strategy;
 - (2) Operational Geography: a consideration of variations in objectives during the initial phases of war;
 - (3) Project: each student is assigned a topic on which he works for two months; these papers are read before a special commission which grades them, as well as before high-ranking officers and all Staff College students; and
 - (4) The first hour of every day is spent in physical training and horseback riding.
5. Classes are held for five or six hours in the morning. Students spend the rest of the day preparing their lessons. The work load is often too heavy to be completed.
 6. Graduates of the Staff College are transferred to the General Staff and given one year seniority; this means that they are promoted one year ahead of other officers having the same length of service and that they receive higher pay.
 7. In the past, the most capable General Staff officers were sent abroad as military attaches; these were usually officers who ranked high at the Staff College and were well-versed in the customs and language of the host country. At the present time, political reliability is the primary requisite of service abroad. [redacted] reliable staff officers will be trained. Bulgarian graduates of the "Frunze" Academy, Moscow, for the division level and the "Voroshkov" Academy, Moscow; for the army and field staff officers are already on duty in Bulgaria.
 8. The Vasil Levski People's Military School in Sofia is organized as follows:
 - a. The Staff, composed of:
 - (1) Line Staff; and
 - (2) Political Administration;
 - b. A Department of Studies; headed by a regimental commander; in 1947, the chief was Colonel Staycho KHADZHIEV;
 - c. The Quartermaster (Domakinstvo);
 - d. Two Cadet (Yunker) Battalions, each commanded by a colonel of regimental rank; each battalion is composed of three companies of 120-150 men;
 - e. The following units, grouped as a battalion under the command of a major or lieutenant colonel:
 - (1) Cadet Battery, composed of three platoons;
 - (2) Cadet Yatro (Yunker Aumatori);
 - (3) Cadet Pioneer Company;
 - (4) Cadet Communications Company; and
 - (5) Cadet Cavalry Squadron; and

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f. The School Unit, composed as follows:

- (1) Two Infantry companies;
- (2) Two batteries;
- (3) A Pioneer company;
- (4) A Communications company; and
- (5) A Cavalry squadron.

9. [redacted]
[redacted] one of the Cadet Battalions had been transferred to Shumen; half of the bandmen were transferred with them.

10. [redacted] the Vasil Levski People's Military School [redacted] the two school batteries, the artillery school in Sofia, and the school battery of the reserve officers' school in Sofia had been transferred to Samokov. Here they formed VUZ (Vissho Uchebno Zabedenie-Higher Training Establishment) for the training of artillery officers. All the armament of these units was replaced with Soviet equipment.

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12. The following legend refers to a sketch showing installations at the Staff College and the Vasil Levski People's Military School in Sofia, included as an Appendix on page 5 :

1. Guard House
2. Staff College (Voenna Akademiya)
3. Garage
4. Bakery
5. Workshops
6. Trudovak dormitories
7. Stable
8. Band room
9. Cadet "Batteries"
10. Cadet "Companies"
11. Church
12. Canteen
13. Barber shop
14. Bath house and laundry
15. Staff College stables
16. Cadet "Cavalry Company"
17. Stables
18. Guard room
19. Indoor riding ring
20. Headquarters
21. Monument
- 22 and 23. Fountains
24. Vasil Levski People's Military School
25. Lake
26. Flower garden
27. Cadet "Battery"
28. Veterinary dispensary
29. Hay and straw storehouse
30. Outdoor riding ring
31. Cadet "Engineer and Communications Company"
32. Ammunition storeroom
33. Pigpen
34. Firing range.

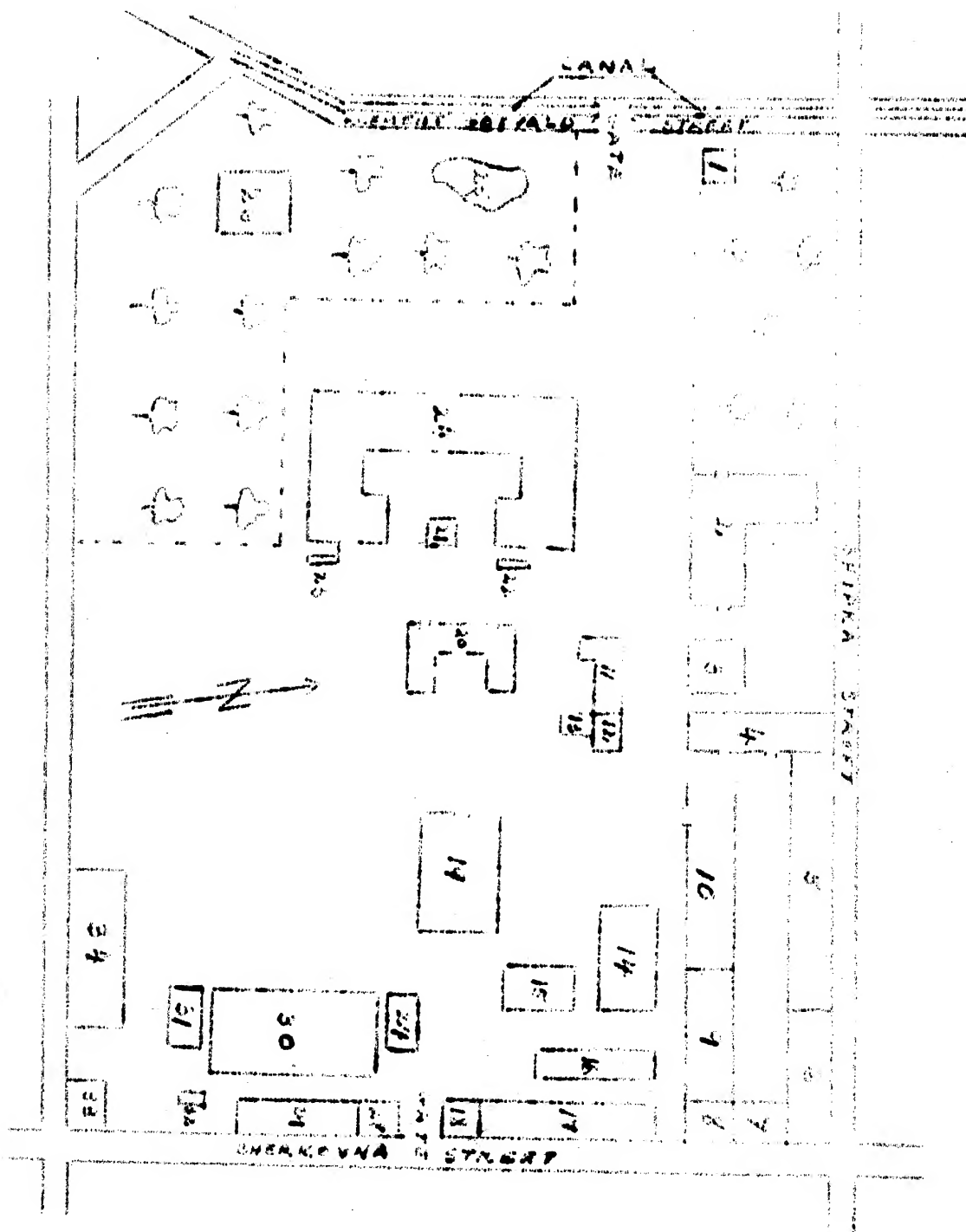
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APPENDIX

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